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Docket 81794BLMB Customer No. 01333

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of

Debasis Majumdar, et al

CONDUCTIVE AND ROUGHENING LAYER

Serial No. 10/797,982

Filed 11 March 2004

Group Art Unit: 1752

Examiner: Amanda C. Walke

I hereby certify that this correspondence was sent by facinile transmission to the United States Patent and Tradesta Office on the date set forth below.

Christone

September 25, 2006

Mail Stop APPEAL BRIEF-PATENTS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

Sir:

APPELLANTS' REPLY BRIEF

This Reply Brief is necessitated by several "new points of argument" in the Examiner's Answer mailed July 25, 2006. Each new point of argument is addressed below in turn.

(10) Response to Arguments

In the "Response to Arguments" in Section (10) of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner argues the "material of the reference employs a compatibilizer of polyethylene-block-copolyamide in a polyethylene terephthalate sheet that has been stretched in a ratio of 3.3 (see column 8, paragraph 1 of the reference)". Contrary to the Examiner's assertions, however, there is no mention at column 8, paragraph 1, nor anywhere else in the examples, of use of a compatibilizer. This explanation as to how Greener at al necessarily anticipates the present claimed invention accordingly represents clear error.

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The Examiner further states that she is unpersuaded by Applicants' explanation that the Kubota references are evidence that the claimed roughness is not an inherent property of the materials employed in Greener et al because the "polymers employed in the Kubota references are a polyester and polyetherimide, not the PET employed in the Greener et al reference (and the instant invention/examples)." PET, however, is a polyester, and the referenced examples of the US 2002/0114977 and USP 6,783,889 Kubota references actually do include several examples specifically employing PET as the polyester. Such statement by the Examiner is accordingly not understood, and represents further clear error.

In summary, there is no disclosure of the use of any particular compatibilizer at any particular concentration which would necessarily inherently result in a surface roughness as required by the present claimed invention, and the Examiner accordingly has not adequately set forth a prima facie case as to why the Greener et al. disclosure necessarily inherently anticipates the present claimed invention, and the rejection of Applicants' claimed invention thereover represents clear error.

Respectfully submitted,

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.